Institute/Colleges and State Govt. Secretariats by providing computer hardware & other technical equipment. So far North-East States and Sikkim have been covered. Proposal from the States of Kerala, MP, Punjab, UP and Rajasthan are under process.

8. Setting up of Software Technology Parks by STPI in the following States:—

- Andhra Pradesh
- Maharashtra
- Tamil Nadu
- Himachal Pradesh
- Pondicherry
- Orissa
- Haryana
- Jammu & Kashmir
- Karnataka
- Uttar Pradesh
- West Bengal

AIMS and objectives of NASSCOM

4481. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that NASSCOM is the only representative organisation of Software manufactures in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) what are the aims and objectives of NASSCOM;

(c) whether Government interacts with NASSCOM about their function and findings; and

(d) whether Government have any information about the links of NASSCOM with MNC's if so that nature of such links indicating the specific technical, financial or advisory nature thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) National Association of Software and Service Companies (NASSCOM) is the apex body and

umbrella organization representing the IT software and services industry in India. It is a not-for-profit organization. NASSCOM has 843 members (big, medium, small and start-up companies) that contribute to 95% of the reveoues of the Indian software industry.

(b) The aims and objectives of NASSCOM include:

(1) maintaining close interaction with the Government of India and State Governments in formulating National IT policies with specific focus on IT software and services.

(2) Maintaining a state-of-the-art database on software, e-commerce and IT enabled services related activities for use of the Indian as well as interested companies overseas.

(3) Encouraging members to provide world-class quality products, services and solutions in India and overseas; help build brand equity for the Indian IT software and services industry.

(4) Taking effective measures against software piracy.

(5) Providing its member opportunities to participate at all major IT events around the globe and organize IT events in India.

(6) Providing an ideal forum for overseas and domestic companies to explore the vast potential available for joint ventures, strategic alliances, marketing alliances, joint product development etc, by organizing business meets with delegations of various countries.

(7) working actively with overseas Governments, embassies to make the visa and work permit rules more "Indian Industry Friendly".

(8) Actively help in the development of human resources required for the software-driven IT industry.

(9) Involve memebrship participation in various forums of NASSCOM on the subejcts such as HRD, Technology, exprots, Domestic market, E-Governance, IT enabled Services, IPR, Finance, Government Policies, Quality, etc.

(c) and (d) The Government consults NASSCOM on issues affecting the Indian software industry. Since NASSCOM is an independent body and is not supported by Government, Government

is not involved in its functioning and does not probe into the linkage. NASSCOM has established with stakeholders in the software sector.

Annual growth rate of trade in IT

†4482. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':
        SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that annual growth rate of trade in the information technology industry has been assessed to 56.5 per cent during the last five years;

(b) if not, the actual annual growth rate thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there has been meagre increase in the contribution of service sector in the Gross Domestic Production of the country during the years 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-2001; and

(d) if so, the annual growth rate during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per a National Assocation of Software and Service Companies (NASSCOM) survey, the Indian IT software and services industry has been growing at a compounded annual growth rate of 56.5 per cent in the last five years.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The contribution of service sector to the GDP has grown from 41% in 1990-91 to around 49% in 2000-01. The service sector as a whole is growing faster than the GDP and grew at

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†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.